

to the one before. To whom is socialism now a menace? Why to Rockefeller, to President Taft, to Charles F. Murphy and to your own McNichol. To say that the republican party, as now constituted, can solve the problem is like asking a man sitting on the limb of a tree to saw that limb off. The republican party can't saw off capitalism without falling down, for its foundation is capitalism. The republican party is the political expression of the trusts. A trust is socialism for the few and hell for the many. It is a good thing for those on the inside and it is a bad thing for those on the outside. All that we want to do is to get on the inside and make the trust a blessing for everybody. The crowning glory of capitalism is the trust. We socialists out in Milwaukee do not attack the trusts as predatory wealth. If we were at the head of the trusts, we could not do anything else than they are doing now. The owners of the trusts now travel abroad and do nothing but clip coupons. What we want to do is to make the trusts public property. That would solve two questions of distribution. In the first place, the workers would get infinitely more of what they produce right off. Second, the people as a whole would get the products of labor much cheaper than they do now. We wish to convert production for profit, as it is now, into production for use."

THE DES MOINES (Iowa) Register and Leader gives some information that will be received with regret by men of all political parties. The Register and Leader says: "It is an unpleasant word Senator Cummins brings back from Washington that Senator Dolliver's ailment of the face is becoming serious enough to alarm his friends and that he will be forced to leave Washington in the immediate future to seek relief in a dryer climate. The senator is suffering from an affection of the bone under the eyes, which seems to be dying. He has been visited by the surgeon twice a day for over six months, and has suffered greatly from operations conducted through the nasal openings. But the surgeon now announces that an incision must be made from the outside, and the senator's condition is such as to make the administration of chloroform a serious matter. The senator has a speech prepared to deliver when the tariff commission amendment comes before the senate and will try and remain in Washington until that debate is over. It is likely then that he will go to the southwest and try the effect of a dry atmosphere. If this does not bring relief he will then have only one resort left, and that a serious surgical operation. The senator has been making a gallant fight this spring under the most adverse conditions. Regardless of political differences the people of Iowa will wish him a speedy relief from his sufferings."

CHARGES ARE made to the effect that President Diaz of Mexico is able to use officers of the United States government as his tools in persecuting his political enemies. Representative Wilson, democrat, of Pennsylvania, has offered a resolution providing for the creation of a joint investigation committee. An Associated Press dispatch from Washington says: "A dramatic tale of enforced flight from Mexico and of alleged persecution by American and Mexican officers in this country was related to the rules committee of the house by L. DeLara, a political refugee. After recounting his experiences in Los Angeles, Cal., where he said he was arrested five times on 'trumped-up' charges at the instance of the Mexican government and served more than one hundred days in jail, DeLara exclaimed: 'I have been in jail five times since I came to the United States and have suffered the 'third degree' at the hands of officers; I have been thrown into a dungeon and kept for days with nothing to eat but a rotten potato, and neither my attorneys or friends allowed to see me. I am liable to be arrested again at any time, and unless you gentlemen help me, they may get me and hang me.' DeLara denounced President Diaz as a 'dirty despot,' who had destroyed free people and free press and the ballot in that country. 'More than forty thousand people have met violent deaths for political reasons since Diaz took the reins of government in Mexico,' said DeLara. 'He never was elected president. He never was chosen there by voice of the people, but has maintained himself by sheer force. The Mexican government has caused thousands of persons to be killed because they resisted the existing order of things in that country and sought to restore to the poor people the rights

that were taken from them by force.' DeLara related incidents tending to support the charge that the government of Mexico was using a system of espionage in the United States over political refugees. DeLara told how he himself, in order to learn what his government was doing in that direction, had accepted employment as a 'spy' in Los Angeles to trace the movements of other refugees. He said he resigned after four days. DeLara said there were orders in Mexico to shoot him because of his political activities. He told how he had been thrown into jail in Mexico but had been released as a result of a misunderstanding. He said he had escaped to this country through the assistance of friends."

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW, writing from London to the New York American, says: "Your Mr. Roosevelt's speech at the Guild hall is certainly one of his most remarkable performances in his new character of the Innocent Abroad. It raises very seriously the question of England's duty to America. America broke loose from us at the end of the eighteenth century and undertook to govern itself. Ever since that time it has been proving its utter unfitness to govern itself. The revelations of San Francisco were the last straw. Nothing that has ever happened in Egypt can touch them. If it is our duty, as Mr. Roosevelt says, to govern Egypt for its own good without consulting its inhabitants, it is many times more important that we should take America in hand the same way. I quite admit that the condition of our own great cities leaves us open to the retort that we had better learn to govern ourselves before we pretend to govern other people, but the Egyptians may make the retort just as pointedly as the Americans, and Mr. Roosevelt expressly tells us that we must do our duty without attending to what the Egyptians say. It is certainly very curious that Mr. Roosevelt, whom we have come to regard as an American of the Americans, should thus deliberately stir us up to reconquer his country. He even urges us to do it by violence and injustice if necessary. It is true that the Americans have abused their independence and made their initial government odious throughout Europe for its corruption and tyranny, but there are two ways of remedying this. One is for Americans to reform themselves and the other is to trust England for paternal government. Mr. Roosevelt advocates the latter plan. I prefer the former. America can take its choice."

COMMENTING ON Mr. Shaw's remarks the Omaha World-Herald says: "How handily Shaw turns the Roosevelt argument against Roosevelt's own country! And what argument, in truth, can be advanced why England should rule Egypt which would not also be an argument in favor of England's ruling the United States? Has there been assassination in Egypt? Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley were also assassinated. Have disorder and violence disgraced Egypt? There have been insurrections, riots, lynchings, night riders and Ku Kluxers in the United States. Has there been corruption in Egypt? Look at New York, San Francisco, St. Louis, Denver, Pittsburg and Philadelphia! Has there been shown in Egypt an incapacity of the people properly to govern themselves? Look at Joe Cannon's many terms as speaker of the American house; look at legislation made by Cannon, Payne, Dalzell, Aldrich, Hale and Smoot; look at Dick nominated for senator from Ohio; look at Depew, the senator from New York; look at the manner in which the new tariff law was passed! England, it is true, is as bad as we are. England is also as bad as the Egyptians. George Bernard Shaw has given imperialism something to chew on."

A WRITER IN The Public—"D. K. L."—is not greatly impressed with the insurgent hope that Theodore Roosevelt will align himself with the reformers in the republican party. This writer says: "Another reason why Mr. Roosevelt will be careful to avoid identification with the insurgent movement lies in the fact that never in his life has he publicly acknowledged himself guilty of a mistake. To become an insurgent he must confess to the whole American people that he was guilty of a gross blunder in forcing the nomination of Mr. Taft and vouching for his fidelity to the principles with which Mr. Roosevelt himself was identified in the public mind. Such an acknowledgment Mr. Roosevelt will never make. Mr. Roosevelt would be an unsafe leader of the insurgent

cause, even could he be induced to assume its leadership. Those who trace back his career will discover that he has been the most agile trimmer and compromiser with the powers of darkness in modern times. With him the result of the immediate contest in which he is engaged excludes every other consideration. He is never willing to pursue with unwavering fidelity a given principle to the bitter end, regardless of its effect on his personal fortunes or ambitions. If by an artful and timely compromise he can boast of the shadow of victory, he willingly surrenders the substance. The most glaring example of that trait in his character was afforded by his capitulation to Aldrich, Spooner and Allison in the struggle over the Hepburn rate bill. There has never been a time in Mr. Roosevelt's career when he was not willing to deal and dicker privately with those whom he was publicly denouncing as enemies of mankind. Once or twice he has been caught and exposed at it, notably in the case when while he was president of the United States, he wrote a personal letter to E. H. Harriman, soliciting campaign funds. He is not of the stuff of which martyrs and crusaders are made—content to wait for time to vindicate his course and force the adoption of his ideas. He is not patient enough to sow the seed and await the due coming of the harvest time. What he demands always is immediate results, which shall redound to the public glorification of Theodore Roosevelt. Too often he has surrendered what he has paraded as his undying principles in order to achieve his immediate ends. If ever in the world there was a movement that demanded a militant, uncompromising leader, who would not abate a jot or tittle of principle, but would pursue an undeviating course to the last, it is this insurgent movement. In the hands of a compromiser or trimmer, a man who is willing to bargain in a back room with its enemies, it is bound to be wrecked. Senator Cummins evidently understands this. Not long ago, when Aldrich sent for him and asked him for terms of compromise on the railroad bill pending in congress, Mr. Cummins declined to name any terms, or discuss the matter with the reactionary leader. That was the stand of a man who is as good a politician as Roosevelt and infinitely more faithful to principle. Instead of needing the leadership of Mr. Roosevelt, the progressive republicans are fortunate indeed that they will probably escape it."

VARIOUS NEWSPAPERS are discussing just now the "real sufferers" in connection with the Lorimer scandal. The Chicago Record-Herald publishes a cartoon depicting the wife and daughter of an Illinois legislator who has been caught in the bribery muddle of the celebrated Mr. Lorimer, and labeling them 'the real sufferers.' The Omaha World-Herald makes this fine contribution to the discussion: "There are several real sufferers in such a case. Mr. Lorimer is a real sufferer; so is the state of Illinois; so is the general public of the United States. The families of the disgraced men are very real sufferers likewise. But in the end the real sufferers of all are the exposed men themselves. The pain of their wives and daughters is passed on to them, magnified. All the others will get over it in time; the innocent families will not be blamed. But the man who took the bribe and is now exposed openly as a criminal and a traitor to his public trust has seen the last of joy on this earth. His injury is of the kind that does not heal. The old Greek idea of the Fates, and the latter religious doctrines of personal torment, were based on true human experience."

REAL ABILITY

The Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch and the Houston (Texas) Post have many powerful editorials these days relating to the manufacture and disposition of mint juleps. These editorials indicate that the writers have real knowledge with the subject under discussion—an observation that may not always be made with respect to their editorials on democracy.

PEACE

The American Economist, speaking for the tariff barons, pleads: "Let us have a few years of peace." But the consumers are in search of peace also and inasmuch as they have been given no consideration in the past it would be well to have congress pay some attention to their sad plight—just for a change.